

5 APR 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Director of Central Intelligence
THROUGH: Deputy Director (Intelligence)
SUBJECT: Chinese Communist Broadcast Treatment of Wei Li-Huang
Defection

1. The Chinese Communist broadcast treatment of the defection of former Kuomintang General Wei Li-Huang is described briefly in enclosure.

2. This memorandum is for information only.

SIGNED: GEORGE G. CAREY

GEORGE G. CAREY
Assistant Director for Operations

Enclosure

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CHINESE COMMUNIST BROADCAST TREATMENT OF WEI LI-HUANG DEFECTION

The return of former Kuomintang General Wei Li-Huang to the China mainland from Hong Kong on 15 March was treated routinely in Peking propaganda. As with other defections to the Communists, Wei's was reported cursorily in broadcasts to the Chinese domestic audience; only the brief announcement of his return, with his wife, was used in three Peking Home Service newscasts and in English and Cantonese voicecasts. Wei's message to former colleagues and his interview with a CHINA PRESS correspondent in Canton were broadcast only in the Amoy-dialect and Mandarin programs beamed to Formosa--the interview once and the message twice in each language. MONA's transmissions in Numeral Code to the domestic press and in English Morse carried both the interview and the message. Two weeks later, Hong Kong press comment was quoted in broadcasts to Formosa on the significance of Wei's desertion.

A message by a "former artilleryman of the Chiang Kai-shek fourth shock battalion on Ikiangshan Island" was, together with Wei's, broadcast in Mandarin to Formosa on 17 and 18 March, but there were differences in the presentation of the two messages: Wei's led off the programs, followed by the artilleryman's message; but while the latter was first read by its author and then by the announcer, Wei--contrary to this usual practice--did not read his appeal.

The format and content of Wei's appeal is also routine, reflecting no apparent attempt to exploit his former position and reputation. He makes the familiar comparison between the Nationalist record and that of the CPR, pays tribute to the "lenient" policy of the CPR toward those who serve the Communist cause on Formosa with either "perceptible or imperceptible" acts, terms the liberation of Formosa "a matter of course" and a "punitive measure" against Chiang Kai-shek, and assails the interference of the United States.

No independent comment or statement is attributed to Han Chuan-hua, Wei's wife. She is mentioned only as having accompanied Wei in his return to China.

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1 April 1955